

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-06

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 203399 TOSEC 100185

E.O. 11652' GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, MZ

SUBJECT: BRIEFING MEMORANDUM - U.S.-MOZAMBIQUE RELATIONS -

FOR THE SECRETARY AND UNDER SECRETARY SISCO FROM ACTING
ASST. SECY MULCAHY

1. ON AUGUST 17, THE WHITE HOUSE RECEIVED FOLLOWING CABLE
ADDRESSED TO PRESIDENT FORD FROM MOZAMBIQUE PRESIDENT
SAMORA MACHEL: QUOTE ON BEHALF OF THE MOZAMBICAN PEOPLE
AND GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE I
THANK YOU, YOUR EXCELLENCY, FOR YOUR MESSAGE OF FRIENDSHIP
AND CONGRATULATIONS AND I EXPRESS MY WISH THAT THE LINKS OF
FRIENDSHIP EXISTING BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES WILL BECOME STRONG-
ER IN THE DIPLOMATIC, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL FIELDS FOR
MUTUAL BENEFIT AND FOR THE CAUSE OF PEACE STOP HIGH CON-
SIDERATION, SAMORA MOISES MACHEL, PRESIDENT OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE. UNQUOTE.

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2. ON AUGUST 20, OUR ACTING PRINCIPAL OFFICER IN LOURENCO
MARQUES RECEIVED A LETTER DATED AUGUST 15 FROM THE
MOZAMBICAN FONOFF ADVISING ALL PERSONNEL AT THE US MISSION
TO LEAVE MOZAMBIQUE. ON THE SAME DAY THIS MESSAGE WAS

RECEIVED, SENATOR DICK CLARK ARRIVED IN LOURENCO MARQUES AND WAS WARMLY RECEIVED BY FOREIGN MINISTER CHISSANO, WHO ASKED THE SENATOR'S ADVICE ON HOW TO PROCEED WITH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH THE U.S. SENATOR CLARK THEN SENT YOU THE MESSAGE IN LOURENCO MARQUES TELEGRAM 904 OFFERING TO BE HELPFUL IN ANY WAY HE COULD.

3. SENATOR CLARK RECEIVED YOUR REPLY IN TIME TO PAY A FAREWELL CALL ON FERN MIN CHISSANO TO DELIVER YOUR MESSAGE. CHISSANO STUDIED THE MESSAGE CAREFULLY AND IMMEDIATELY BEGAN TO DISCUSS THE MODALITIES OF ESTABLISHING RELATIONS, FIRST SUGGESTING THAT THE U.S. SEND A "SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE" TO MOZAMBIQUE TO WORK OUT AND SIGN A JOINT COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCING THE INTENTION OF BOTH COUNTRIES TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS. (A JOINT COMMUNIQUE IS A PRE-REQUISITE WHICH THE GPRM HAS REQUIRED FROM ALL COUNTRIES.) CHISSANO SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE WOULD CHECK WITH PRESIDENT MACHEL AND LET US KNOW WHETHER THE SIGNING OF A COMMUNIQUE SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN LOURENCO MARQUES OR IN NEW YORK DURING CHISSANO'S PRESENCE AT THE FORTHCOMING UNGA. CHISSANO ADDED THAT FOLLOWING JOINT SIGNING OF THE COMMUNIQUE, THE U.S. MIGHT REQUEST AGREEMENT FOR ITS AMBASSADOR. PENDING THE ARRIVAL OF THE AMBASSADOR IN LOURENCO MARQUES AT A "MUTUALLY AGREEABLE TIME," THE U.S. COULD SEND A CHARGE D'AFFAIRES.

4. CHISSANO ALSO MADE CLEAR, HOWEVER, THAT OUR ACTING PRINCIPAL OFFICER WOULD HAVE TO LEAVE IN ORDER CONFORM SYMBOLICALLY TO PRINCIPLE THAT ALL FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT BEFORE JUNE 25 INDEPENDENCE SHOULD DEPART MOZAMBIQUE. CHISSANO APPEARED WILLING PERMIT OTHER CONSULATE PERSONNEL TO REMAIN, HOWEVER (PAO (FSIO-3); FSR POLITICAL/ECONOMIC OFFICER; JUNIOR ECONOMIC/CONSULAR OFFICER; ADMIN OFFICER).

5. IT WOULD APPEAR THAT THE AWKWARD SITUATION BETWEEN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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U.S. AND MOZAMBIQUE IS NOW ON THE WAY TO RESOLUTION, THANKS LARGELY TO THE FORTUITOUS TIMING OF SENATOR CLARK'S VISIT. CONFIRMATION FROM PRESIDENT MACHEL OF THE MODALITIES TO BE FOLLOWED (PARA 3 ABOVE) SHOULD ENABLE US TO PROCEED RAPIDLY TOWARD ESTABLISHING RELATIONS.

6. HOME LEAVE ORDERS WENT OUT TO OUR ACTING PRINCIPLE OFFICER ON AUGUST 22 AND HE HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO LEAVE AT HIS CONVENIENCE, BUT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE PAO, WHO WILL THEN BE IN CHARGE, HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO CONDUCT NO BUSINESS AND TO MAINTAIN A VERY LOW PROFILE UNTIL THE SITUATION IS RESOLVED. IN THE MEANTIME, WE AWAIT MACHEL'S CONFIRMATION, WHICH COULD COME IN SOME UNORTHODOX FASHION,

E.G., COMMERCIAL CABLE TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

7. IN A NEW DEVELOPMENT, WE LEARNED AUGUST 26, THAT MOZAMBIQUE'S DELEGATION TO THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE AT LIMA IS BEING HEADED BY FOREIGN MINISTER CHISSANO, AND THAT UNIDENTIFIED MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION PLAN TO RETURN TO MOZAMBIQUE VIA NEW YORK "TO ESTABLISH CONTACT IN PREPARATION FOR THE UNGA." WE HAVE ASKED EMBASSY LIMA TO SEEK TO ASCERTAIN WHICH MOZAMBICANS PLAN TO VISIT NEW YORK TO ASSIST WITH VISA ISSUANCES, AND TO REPORT ANY OTHER INFORMATION THE EMBASSY MIGHT BE ABLE DEVELOP, BEARING IN MIND MOZAMBICANS' SENSITIVITY TO CONTACTS WITH US OFFICIALS. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT MACHEL HAS AUTHORIZED CHISSANO OR ANOTHER MEMBER OF DELEGATION TO PURSUE MATTER OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE ON ESTABLISHING RELATIONS DURING NEW YORK VISIT. WE WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS. INGERSOLL

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